



By Henry F. Donovan.

CHICAGO, DECEMBER 21, 1912.

COLONEL B. A. ECKHART.

One of the very best officials that Illinois has ever had is Colonel Bernard A. Eckhart. The services to the state of this good citizen have been of the very highest order. He brought order out of chaos in the West Park system. As a member of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission his ability and integrity contributed greatly towards giving the state the best and cleanest administration of that important branch of the government that it has ever had. Colonel Eckhart deserves well of the people. He has served them faithfully and usefully at a great sacrifice to himself and his immense business interests. His good work will not be forgotten.

FOR A CITY PHONE BUREAU.

The city has a fine way now of adjusting telephone troubles. A complaint is made to the Department of Public Works. It is referred to the phone company. The complainant gets left. The city should have a Telephone Bureau of its own. Many aldermen favor one. Rates should be reduced first, then start the bureau. "The city should have its own bureau to investigate telephone complaints," said Ald. Louis Sitts.

"We should have had such a bureau long ago," said Ald. James B. Bowler. "If we had, there would be no 'tick-tick nickel-first' holdup machines attached to telephones in Chicago." "I shall insist that something along that line be done," said Ald. Kearns. Other aldermen expressed themselves in similar language, and when a new rate schedule is established the ordinance will probably include such a provision.

JOE SIBLEY, THE REFORMER.

It is very interesting to note the career of reformers. One of the most prominent of this ilk now before the public in an unenviable light is Joseph C. Sibley, for some time congressman from Pennsylvania. Sibley was a Democrat at one time, and as such was the idol of some of the free silver Democrats of Illinois. In the national convention of 1896, these free silver reformers, having a small majority in the Illinois delegation, voted the whole delegation, under the unit rule, for three ballots for Joseph C. Sibley for vice-president.

Sibley's nomination for this high office by a Democratic convention was fought at the time by the editor of the Chicago Eagle, who was a delegate to that national convention, and by a number of other Chicago delegates. Sibley's opponents in the Illinois delegation took the stand that he was an unfit man for the nomination for vice-president of the United States. Although a free silver idol, Sibley afterward joined the Republican party.

The developments in the Archbald case show the kind of a man he was and vindicate the position taken by his opponents in the Illinois delegation of 1896.

NEW DRAINAGE OFFICERS.

Lyman E. Cooley has been appointed consulting engineer of the Sanitary District of Chicago. Other officers chosen were:

Electrical engineer—Edward B. Ellicott, reappointed.
Comptroller—D. M. Dinsinger, at present auditor of electrical department.
Real estate agent—Michael J. Donoghue, vice Senator Nels Juhl.
Purchasing agent—John J. Gaynor, former private secretary to President Smyth.
District marshal—John W. O'Neill, vice Edward E. Ertman.

The resignations of Itham Randolph, Nels Juhl and E. E. Ertman were read and accepted previous to the appointments.

ELECTION CALENDAR.

Next Friday is the first day for candidates for Superior Court judges to file primary petitions with the secretary of state. One judge is to be elected at the election of April 1, the

THE CHICAGO EAGLE.
EDITORIAL AND PERSONAL NOTES

Pungent Paragraphs on Live Topics, with Some Comment on the Leading Men of the Day.

date for the regular municipal election in Chicago.

The calendar for the coming election was issued by the board of election commissioners. The more important dates are as follows: Dec. 27, first day for filing Superior Court petitions; Jan. 25, last day for filing Superior Court petitions; Jan. 27, first day for filing municipal or aldermanic petitions; Feb. 10, last day for municipal or aldermanic petitions; March 1, last day for filing independent Superior Court petition; March 7, last day for filing municipal or aldermanic independent petitions; Feb. 5, single day for filing affidavits of change of residence of voters to qualify for February direct primary; Feb. 25, direct primary to nominate Superior Court judge and municipal officials, aldermen, and town officials in Cicero; March 11, single day of intermediate registration for city election; March 15, registry revision day; April 1, election day.

EAGLETS.

Candidates for aldermen are cropping up in every ward in the city. Which fact should make it interesting for quite a few of those who retire from the Council next spring.

Cooper Lyon presided at the very interesting entertainment given by the Manufacturers and Dealers Association in the gold room of the Congress, Tuesday night. The feature was a minstrel show, with Mr. Lyon as interlocutor.

The budget for 1913, presented to the Council by Comptroller John E. Traeger, provides for an expenditure of \$23,964,835.60, which is \$4,446,966.13 more than the city expects to receive during the year as corporate revenue.

The Finance Committee of the Council will be called upon to prune down the expenditures almost \$5,000,000.

The amount asked for 1913 by departments was \$25,586,849.85. This was reduced to \$23,964,835.60. A 20 per cent. reduction brings this to \$19,571,869.56.

The heaviest reductions proposed in the budget of 1913 were in the fire department, where \$300,000 was lopped off the estimated amount needed. The police department lost just half this amount, the reduction being \$150,000. The health department did not lose, as was expected; instead, they were given a slight increase over last year.

A. A. Worsley, the popular lawyer and loyal Democrat, is being talked of by many for that vacancy on the Municipal Court bench.

A subcommittee was appointed to look into the proposition of the Lincoln Park commissioners turning over Lincoln parkway from Chicago avenue to Ohio street to the city when the question was taken up by the Council committee on streets and alleys. The committee appointed by Chairman William J. Healy is composed of Aldermen Pretzel, Haderlein and Hey. The transfer is one desired by the city in connection with the proposed Michigan avenue connecting link.

The rank and file of the Republican party in Illinois believe that it would be only common justice for Governor Deneen to appoint Albert J. Hopkins to the vacancy in the United States Senate from Illinois.

The board of directors was enlarged, plans for furthering the purpose of the organization were discussed and a monthly program was outlined at a meeting of the recently organized Clark Street Improvement Association, which was held at the Hotel Sherman, Tuesday afternoon. The object of the organization is to make Clark street one of the most attractive thoroughfares in the city. Nelson N. Lampert, vice-president of the Fort Dearborn National Bank, is president of the organization.

Frank L. Fowler, the well-known attorney, who made such a grand race for Congress in the Tenth District, is being talked of by many Democrats for judge of the Superior Court bench.

Judge John R. Caverly is making a fine record on the Municipal Court bench. He is an able and conscientious judge.

Charles E. Merriam, chief speaker at the banquet of the new Chicago Progressive Club Tuesday evening, announced that Progressives would introduce a bill at Springfield giving women the right of suffrage in municipal elections. This can be done without a constitutional amendment. Mr. Merriam explained that the initiative and referendum constitutional amendment has the right of way this winter.

Other speakers were Dr. W. A. Evans, Clarence B. Straus, Lawrence P. Boyle, Charles Ringer, Mrs. John F. Bass and Mrs. Antoinette Funk. The by-laws adopted by the club contain a provision for the recall of its officers. An opportunity is given for the use of the initiative and referendum.

Thomas D. Knight, president; Dr. W. A. Evans, first vice-president; William R. Medaris, secretary, and Henry E. Cooley, treasurer, were elected as permanent officers.

James S. Hopkins, the able and highly respected attorney, would make a splendid judge.

The Fidelia Singing Society celebrated its fortieth anniversary Sunday night at a banquet and song recital in the Lincoln Turner hall, Diversey boulevard and Sheffield avenue. The Fidelia society is the second oldest singing organization in Chicago, and numbers among its members many prominent men. Its chorus of forty male voices, which entertained last night, is well known. Ferdinand Walther, president of the society, presided. Among the speakers were ex-Alderman Arthur Josetti and Frederick Bergman.

In Judge Kickham Scanlan the people of Cook County have an honest, able and fearless man on the bench.

Recommendations made by the Circuit Court judges for a decrease of employees in the different county fee offices will not take effect until March 1, according to a statement given out by Judge Jesse A. Baldwin, chief justice of the Circuit Court. The statement given out by Judge Baldwin sets forth that from December 1 until March 1 substantially the same number of employees will be continued in the offices of the Circuit, Superior, Criminal, Probate and County Courts.

The many friends of Andrew Donovan, the popular attorney who made such a splendid race for Congress in the First District, are booming him for that vacancy on the Municipal Court bench.

Trustees of the Chicago Sanitary District inspected the Calumet Sag channel on Tuesday as a result of disclosures that the walls of the ditch were breaking badly.

A remedy, or a partial remedy, may be found by the purchase of additional dumping grounds and the chief engineer will be looked to for plans to strengthen and decrease unnecessary weight or strain on the banks of the Sag branch.

For Trustees Dailey, Reding and Breit, new members of the board, the inspection was the first official visit to the channel.

Every Chicagoan would be pleased to see Judge Edward Osgood Brown appointed attorney-general.

Members of the Lincoln Park Commission held their annual meeting, and the old officers of the board were re-elected as follows:

President, Francis T. Simmons. Vice-president, Bryan Lathrop. Auditor, Frederick L. Wilk. Treasurer, Theodore Freeman. Attorney, Charles A. Curran. The commissioners are Francis T. Simmons, Bryan Lathrop, Frederick L. Wilk, Leo Austrian, F. H. Gansberger, Amos Pettibone, Charles H. Wilson and Theodore Freeman.

William D. Munhall would prove a winner as the Democratic nominee for judge of the Superior Court next spring.

William Ryan, Jr., treasurer-elect, announced that the Continental and Commercial National and the Fort Dearborn National Banks of Chicago will go on his bonds and control the placing of the funds of the treasurer during the next two years. The Continental and Commercial now holds the position of guarantor for the present state treasurer and Edward F. Tilden of the Fort Dearborn National, through County Treasurer O'Connell, has been taken in as surety for the new treasurer, it is asserted.

William A. Doyle deserves the high place he holds in the estimation of the people of Chicago. Both as a lawyer and a citizen his record is clean and honorable in every respect.

Col. James Hamilton Lewis is the choice of Illinois Democrats first, last and all the time for United States senator.

Chicago taxpayers, it is announced, will pay between 10 and 15 per cent. less taxes on their property this year than they paid last year. County Clerk Robert M. Switzer today finished his preparation of the rates in the various towns, the result showing such reduction. The reason for this lower tax rate is the recent Supreme Court decision that resulted in putting the bond issues under corporate scaling process.

Chicago, as had been anticipated, will be the heaviest loser. The total reduction of its resources, as figured today in the county clerk's office, will be \$3,291,600. Last year its rate, outside the bond issues, was \$1.10, and this year it is 75 cents, the bond rate being 35 cents.

Cook county will lose \$350,000, but most of this is made up by the taking over of the Dunning asylum by the state. Hence the county, it is announced, will not suffer materially. The sanitary district will lose \$1,575,000.

Judge John E. Owens continues to add to his big army of friends by his clean and able record as judge of the County Court.

Chicago is proud to claim Albert G. Wheeler as one of her leading financiers and business men.

There is a lot of plumbing work at the city hall. Who gets it? It is nice fat picking.

Telephone competition in Chicago is needed and needed badly.

The people are sick and tired of being forced to submit to the demands of the 'phone trust. They resent the gall of the trust in wanting the city to give it a monopoly and they are not

going to stand for any such action by the city.

For years they have suffered patiently the wrongs put upon them by the trust and they have come to the position where they are not going to stand for it any longer.

The one thing that will put a stop to the high rates and poor service, from which the people of Chicago have suffered for years, is telephone competition.

Chicago demands 'phone competition.

The Chicago Telephone Company is owned by the American Telephone & Telegraph Company.

The American Telephone & Telegraph Company owns the Western Union Telegraph Company.

The American Telephone & Telegraph Company owns the Western Electric Company.

The subsidiary companies are forced to patronize the parent company.

Each subsidiary company is obliged to patronize the other subsidiary companies.

The subsidiary companies maintain high prices for each other and the parent company maintains high prices in its dealings with its subsidiary companies.

This seems very funny.

But it isn't funny.

The whole system of high prices is maintained for book effect, so that aldermen and others will allow the telephone company to keep up its high prices.

The whole scheme is as transparent as air.

It is the best known method of making the telephone patron pay telephone dividends of eight per cent on watered stock.

How the people of Chicago do suffer from that Bell phone!

The broken air drums which so many of its patrons complain of are as nothing compared to the lost tempers of usually good natured patrons, who get wrong numbers and other wrong treatment.

Not to speak of the broken rest of people aroused from their beds by these same mistakes and who are so mad themselves that they fail to grasp the predicament of the fellow at the other end of the line who has paid a nickel in advance to have "wrong number" slammed into his ear.

Then the tedious wait for the right number!

Some times minutes elapse before the operator finds her stick of gum or gets ready to answer.

The Chicago Telephone Company is bound by its franchise to submit to any order passed by the city council regulating either its charges or its equipment. Section 7 of the ordinance granting the franchise says:

"The city council as one of the conditions of the grant of the privileges herein conferred upon the Chicago Telephone Company hereby reserves to itself the right from time to time during the period of this grant, by special ordinance amendatory hereof, to hereafter establish, fix, prescribe, and regulate the rates, charges, prices and tolls or other compensation or any limitations thereupon for each and every kind of service, facilities, and equipment which the Chicago Telephone Company furnishes or supplies or may furnish or supply in the city of Chicago under this ordinance, and also the basis, method, manner, and means of computing, exacting, imposing, paying, and collecting such rates, charges, prices, and tolls or other compensation of said Chicago Telephone Company."

Elsewhere in the franchise, in section 5, is found this paragraph: "The city council shall have the right by ordinance to regulate from time to time during the term hereof in any manner each and every kind of service which said Chicago Telephone Company may hereafter deal in, furnish or supply in the city of Chicago under or by virtue of this grant."

In section 16 is found this provision:

"But said Chicago Telephone Company by the acceptance of this ordinance shall be understood as precluded from in any manner attacking or questioning the power of the city of Chicago to exercise the authority, powers, privileges and rights hereby reserved or granted, or any of them."

By section 17 the company agreed that in the event of its default "in the observance or performance" of any of the agreements of the ordinance continuing three months after written notice from the city the council can declare the grant "and all the rights and privileges" of the company forfeited and at an end.

The cutting down of the number of police stations from forty-five to twenty-five as recommended by the council committee is a mistake. It will take protection away from the people, weaken the moral influence of the police force and do no good.

Telephone rates are entirely too high in Chicago. The aldermen have a chance to lower them. Will they do it?

The telephone trust wants to add to the high cost of living.

It wants all phones in Chicago placed on the nickel-in-advance basis and it has the gall to ask the aldermen to sanction this robbing.

Under the proposed scheme, every time a housewife ordered a pound of butter by telephone she would have

to deposit a nickel before telephoning.

But the telephone trust must have victims, otherwise it could not continue to pay eight per cent per annum in dividends to its stockholders.

The people of Chicago are looked upon by the trust as easy marks.

It is a relief to taxpayers and citizens generally to see men like Smyth and McGillen as officers of the Drainage District.

If the loop has to go, what is going to take its place?

Is the city hall plumbing given out by contract or is it a pay roll job? It is too fat a thing to escape notice entirely.

Jacob Lindheimer, assistant City Treasurer, is much talked of by Democrats for City Treasurer.

John J. Geraghty, head of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and well known manufacturer of badges and buttons would make a fine city treasurer.

Among Chicago's leading financiers and business men no man stands higher in the estimation of the people than Albert G. Wheeler.

The Telephone Trust should be dissolved.

The best place in Chicago to buy diamonds is at Tom N. Donnelly's, 24 North Dearborn street.

OFFICES—NEW CITY MALL.

City Architect.

Fourth floor, South end.

Board of Election Commissioners.

Third floor, South end.

Charles H. Kellerman.

Anthony Czarnecki.

Howard S. Taylor.

William H. Stuart, chief clerk.

Charles H. Mitchell, attorney.

Board of Examiners.

Motor vehicle operators, 10th floor.

North end.

Moving picture operators, 10th floor.

North end.

Plumbers, 10th floor, North end.

Stationary engineers, 10th floor.

North end.

Board of inspectors of public vehicles, 3d floor, North end.

Board of Local Improvements.

General offices, 2d floor, South end.

Public hearing rooms, 1st floor.

North end.

Law department, 2d floor, South end.

Boiler inspection.

Sixth floor, South end.

Building Department.

Seventh floor, North end.

Bridge Division.

Fourth floor, North end.

Business Agent.

Vault floor, North end.

City Attorney.

Sixth floor, North end.

City Clerk.

First floor, South end.

City Collector.

First floor, South end.

City Comptroller.

General office, 5th floor, North end.

Auditor, 5th floor, North end.

Paymaster, 5th floor, North end.

Real estate agent, 5th floor, North end.

City Council.

Council chamber, 2d floor, North end.

General committee-rooms, 2d floor.

North end.

Committee on finance, 2d floor, North end.

Committee on local transportation.

3d floor.

Special park commission, 10th floor.

North end.

City Electrician.

Sixth floor, Center.

City Hall.

Superintendent, 3d floor, North end.

Chief janitor, 3d floor, North end.

City Sealer.

Vault floor, South end.

City Stationer.

Tenth floor, North end.

City Treasurer.

Second floor, Center.

Civil Service Commission.

General offices, 6th floor, South end.

Examining-room, 10th floor, Center.

Bureau of Compensation.

Vault floor, South end.

Corporation Counsel.

Fifth floor, South end.

Bureau of Engineering (City Engineer).

Fourth floor, North end.

Department of Electricity.

Sixth floor, Center.

Finance Committee.

Second floor, North end.

Fire Department.

Fire marshal, 1st floor, North end.

Fire alarm telegraph, 6th floor, Center.

Firemen's pension fund, secretary of board of trustees (city clerk), 1st floor, South end.

Bureau of Gas Inspection.

Vault floor, South end.

Inspector of Oils.

Tenth floor, South end.

Harbor Division.

Fourth floor, North end.

Department of Health.

Commissioner of health, 7th floor.

Bureau of food inspection, 7th floor.

Bureau of sanitary inspection, 7th floor.

Bureau of contagious diseases, 7th floor.

Bureau of vital statistics, 7th floor.

Department of Law.

Corporation counsel, 5th floor.

South end.

COLONEL B. A. ECKHART,
Wh